September 2019 at BFI Southbank

ONSTAGE AT BFI SOUTHBANK THIS MONTH
TERRY GILLIAM, ACTOR STEPHEN MANGAN, DAVID WALLIAMS, JAMES BOND COMPOSER DAVID ARNOLD, ACTOR MARK STRONG (TEMPLE), PHOTOGRAPHER AND PRODUCTION ASSISTANT MICHAEL CHILDERS (MIDNIGHT COWBOY), CRITIC AND BROADCASTER MARK KERMODE, CONTINUITY SUPERVISOR ANGELA ALLEN (THE THIRD MAN), ACTORS COLIN BAKER AND NICOLA BRYANT (DOCTOR WHO), DIRECTOR JOHN IRVIN AND ACTOR MICHAEL JAYSTON (TINKER TAILOR SOLDIER SPY), WRITERS AND CREATORS OF PORRIDGE DICK CLEMENT AND IAN LA FRENAIS, WAAD AL KATEAB, HAMZA AL KATEAB AND EDWARD WATTS (FILMMAKERS AND SUBJECTS OF FOR SAMA), BROADCASTER JON SNOW

Film previews and premieres: FOR SAMA (Waad Al Kateab, Edward Watts, 2019), GOOD POSTURE (Dolly Wells, 2019)
TV previews: WORLD ON FIRE (BBC/Mammoth Screen, 2019), TEMPLE (Sky/Hera Pictures, 2019)

Wednesday 24 July 2019, London.
This September BFI Southbank marks the 50th anniversary of the beloved comedy group Monty Python with a month-long season IT’S... MONTY PYTHON AT 50. The season will explore Python’s roots, influences and subsequent work both as a group, and as individuals, including screenings of post-Python TV (Fawlty Towers, Out of the Trees, Ripping Yarns) and films (Jabberwocky, A Fish Called Wanda, Time Bandits, Wind in the Willows and more) as well as oddities and rarities from the BFI National Archive. This month will also feature a season celebrating the great ANGELA BASSETT, showcasing her illustrious career spanning over 30 years. Bassett is one of the most captivating screen stars of her generation, who has firmly established herself as an iconic leading lady; an electrifying character actor, director and producer, she’s also seen as one of the finest and most beloved artists to have emerged from the early 90s wave of new American cinema. Also in September will be the culmination of BFI Southbank’s two month tribute to the legendary CARY GRANT. The final part of the season will see him excel in comedies such as Bringing Up Baby (Howard Hawks, 1938) with Katherine Hepburn and Monkey Business (Howard Hawks, 1952) with Ginger Rogers and Marilyn Monroe, through to Hitchcock thrillers such as North by Northwest (Alfred Hitchcock, 1959) and To Catch a Thief (Alfred Hitchcock, 1955). Looking ahead to the autumn, the September programme will also feature the programme launch for BFI MUSICALS! on Tuesday 10 September; this major UK-wide season will celebrate joyful big screen musicals with screenings and events at venues across the UK and on BFI Player from October 2019 – January 2020.

BFI Southbank will mark the 50th anniversary of Midnight Cowboy (John Schlesinger, 1969) with a special anniversary screening of the film followed by a Q&A with photographer and production assistant Michael Childers on Friday 13 September; Midnight Cowboy will be re-released by the BFI in selected cinemas UK-wide from Friday 13 September as well. Carol Reed’s The Third Man (1949) marks its 70th anniversary this year and BFI Southbank will play the film on extended run from Friday 6 September, when it is re-released by Studio Canal. A screening on Friday 6 September will be introduced by Continuity Supervisor Angela Allen, who will speak about her experiences working on the film aged just 19. On Sunday 29 September the BFI will celebrate Britain’s favourite secret service agent, James Bond, with three anniversary screenings celebrating the 50th anniversary of On Her Majesty’s Secret Service.
(Peter Hunt, 1969), the 40th anniversary of Moonraker (Lewis Gilbert, 1979) and the 20th anniversary The World Is Not Enough (Michael Apted, 1999). Screenings will be accompanied by introductions and Q&As with special guests including James Bond super-fan David Walliams and Bond composer David Arnold.

On Saturday 14 September there will be a screening of Doctor Who: Mindwarp (BBC, 1986), followed by a Q&A with actors Colin Baker and Nicola Bryant, marking the Blu-ray release of Doctor Who: The Collection – Season 23 on Monday 23 September. Also on BBC Blu-ray in September will be the entire series of Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (BBC, 1979), digitally restored for a Blu-ray release on Monday 2 September; to mark the occasion BFI Southbank will, on Sunday 1 September, host a special 40th anniversary screening of episode one of this definitive spy drama, followed by a Q&A with director John Irvin and actor Michael Jayston. Another seminal 70s TV series will also be celebrated this month; on Monday 16 September, to mark the publication of a new BFI Television Classic, there will be a special event Doing Porridge with Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais in which the co-creators of the beloved comedy will be in conversation with the new book’s author Richard Weight. On Tuesday 24 September actor Stephen Mangan will introduce a screening of classic Ealing comedy The Man in the White Suit (Alexander Mackendrick, 1951); Mangan will appear in the West End production of The Man in the White Suit at Wyndham’s Theatre from 25 September to 11 January.

Other events during September will include TV previews of World On Fire (BBC/Mammoth Screen, 2019) – an adrenaline-fuelled, emotionally gripping drama, charting the first year of World War Two – followed by a Q&A with writer Peter Bowker cast members; and Temple (Sky/Hera Pictures, 2019) starring Mark Strong as a talented surgeon who, when his wife contracts a terminal illness, partners with an obsessive, yet surprisingly resourceful, misfit to start a literal ‘underground’ clinic in the vast network of tunnels beneath Temple tube station in London. Film previews meanwhile will include For Sama (Waad Al Kateab, Edward Watts, 2019), followed by a Q&A with Waad Al Kateab, Hamza Al Kateab and Edward Watts, hosted by broadcaster Jon Snow; Waad al-Kateab falls in love, gets married and gives birth to Sama during the uprising in Aleppo, Syria. Filming all the time, her camera intimately captures moments of tenderness, laughter, loss, survival and resistance, as Waad tries to decide whether to flee the city to protect her daughter, when leaving means abandoning the political struggle for which she had already sacrificed so much.

IT’S… MONTY PYTHON AT 50

IT’S… MONTY PYTHON AT 50 will be a month-long season celebrating Monty Python – their roots, influences and subsequent work both as a group, and as individuals. The season, which takes place from 1 September – 1 October at BFI Southbank, forms part of the 50th anniversary celebrations of the beloved comedy group, whose seminal series Monty Python’s Flying Circus first aired on 5th October 1969. The season will include all the Monty Python feature films; oddities and unseen curios from the depths of the BFI National Archive and from Michael Palin’s personal collection of super 8mm films; back-to-back screenings of the entire series of Monty Python’s Flying Circus in a unique big-screen outing; and screenings of post-Python TV (Fawlty Towers, Out of the Trees, Ripping Yarns) and films (Jabberwocky, A Fish Called Wanda, Time Bandits, Wind in the Willows and more). There will also be rare screenings of pre-Python shows At Last the 1948 Show and Do Not Adjust Your Set, both of which will be released on BFI DVD on Monday 16 September, and a free exhibition of Python-related material from the BFI National Archive and The Monty Python Archive, and a Python takeover in the BFI Shop.

Reflecting on the legacy and approaching celebrations, the Pythons commented: “Python has survived because we live in an increasingly Pythonesque world. Extreme silliness seems more relevant now than it ever was.”

IT’S… MONTY PYTHON AT 50 programmers Justin Johnson and Dick Fiddy said: “We are delighted to share what is undoubtedly one of the most absurd seasons ever presented by the BFI, but even more delighted that it has been put together with help from the Pythons themselves and marked with their golden stamp of silliness. With this 50th anniversary season, the Pythons are now fully recognised as being 100% respectable and we guarantee that BFI Southbank will be home to thoroughly decent British vulgarity and comic irreverence from September 1st to October 1st, after which time we will go back to only playing titles with Le, La or Les in front of them.”

Special guests appearing on stage during the season will include: Python member Terry Gilliam, actor Carol Cleveland (Monty Python’s Flying Circus, Monty Python and the Holy Grail), actor and musician Neil Innes (Do Not Adjust Your Set, Monty Python’s Flying Circus), Bill Jones (son of Python member Terry Jones), editor Julian Doyle
(Monty Python’s Life of Brian), Valerie Charlton (Supervising Model Maker, Time Bandits), actors Aimi Macdonald and Tim Brooke-Taylor (At Last the 1948 Show) and Monty Python’s US Manager Nancy Lewis. IT’S... MONTY PYTHON AT 50 will be the largest and silliest celebration of the ingenious sextet, the show and its many roots, branches and offshoots. Albatross!

In addition to the BFI Southbank season, further 50th anniversary will include a BBC takeover, the release of the fully restored Monty Python’s Flying Circus series, a series of new Monty Python radio programmes executive-produced by Michael Palin, and a World Record attempt for the ‘Largest Gathering of People Dressed as Gumbys’.

A full season press release is available here.

**ANNEGA BASSETT – QUEEN OF THE SCREEN**

- **THU 3 SEP, 18:20 – TALK: Trailblazer: The Rise of Angela Bassett**

Running from 1 September – 1 October, BFI Southbank will celebrate the great Angela Bassett, one of the most captivating screen stars of her generation, with an illustrious career spanning over 30 years. ANGELA BASSETT: QUEEN OF THE SCREEN will celebrate Bassett’s regal presence and undeniable versatility that have come to define her signature star power, firmly establishing herself as an iconic leading lady with roles traversing every genre from intimate indie drama (Boyz n the Hood) to heart-stopping musical biopic (What’s Love Got to Do with It) to dystopian, action-fuelled thriller (Strange Days). An electrifying character actor, director and producer, she’s also seen as one of the finest and most beloved artists to have emerged from the early 90s wave of new American cinema. The season include an introductory talk Trailblazer: The Rise of Angela Bassett hosted by season programmer Jan Asante of THINK Cinematic on Thursday 3 September; this event will explore the career, substance, style and star power of this trailblazing actor and consider where her iconic status sits within the current politics of cinema, stardom and representation.

Early work screening in the season will include the late John Singleton’s directorial debut, the landmark indie drama Boyz n the Hood (John Singleton, 1991) as well as Spike Lee’s Malcolm X (1992) starring Denzel Washington as the slain civil-rights leader and Bassett as his devoted wife, Dr Betty Shabazz. Bassett worked with Spike Lee again on the director’s reworking of the ancient Greek tale Lysistrata; Chi-Raq (2015) is a provocative musical intervention on warfare in the streets of Southside Chicago. Panther (Mario Van Peebles, 1995) revisits the history behind a seminal 1960s political movement; the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense were hailed as heroes by many, yet hunted by the FBI as enemies of the state. Mario Van Peebles, son of 1970s radical filmmaker Melvin Van Peebles, adapted his father’s novel for the screen, spotlighting co-founders Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale. Bassett’s filmography extents to sci-fi in Kathryn Bigelow’s provocative Strange Days (1995) which spirals deep into a murderous maze of virtual reality, sexual taboo, police corruption and an escalating race-war that threatens to ignite the streets of Los Angeles on the eve of the new millennium.

Also screening will be the heart-stopping musical biopic, What’s Love Got to Do with It (Brian Gibson, 1993), where Bassett played the legendary Tina Turner, reunited with her Boyz n the Hood co-star Laurence Fishburne as Turner’s volatile husband Ike. Bassett also starred alongside musical icon Whitney Houston in Waiting to Exhale (Forest Whitaker, 1995) adapted from the best-selling novel by Terry McMillan and marking a landmark moment in black, female-centred 90s cinema. John Sayles’ quietly contemplative indie drama Sunshine State (2002) sees out-of-town real estate developers descend upon the sleepy coastal enclave of Delrona Beach, Florida, bringing with them the allure of big money, weighing precariously against the daunting prospect of irreversible change and the dismantling of community. Completing the line-up for the season in 90s romantic comedy-drama How Stella Got Her Groove Back (Kevin Rodney Sullivan, 1998) starring Bassett as a high-flying 40-something stockbroker who takes a lavish trip to Jamaica alongside her rebellious friend Delilah (Whoopi Goldberg). There she meets an unlikely suitor, a dashing young islander (played by Taye Diggs), who sweeps Stella off her feet. Pleasure and panic prevail as Stella reconciles her impeccably structured corporate lifestyle and motherhood, with her passionate desire for her free-spirited, younger lover.

**CARY GRANT: BRITAIN’S GREATEST EXPORT**

- **MON 2 SEP, 18:30 – TALK: Shadows and Light: Alfred Hitchcock and Cary Grant / Onstage: Q&A with author and lecturer Mark Glancy**

- **EVERY TUE FROM 6 AUG-24 SEP 18:30-20:30 – COURSE: Cary Grant: Hollywood’s Leading Man –** an eight week evening course exploring the background, career, talent and legacy of one of Hollywood’s greatest leading men
Concluding in September is **CARY GRANT: BRITAIN’S GREATEST EXPORT**, a two month season dedicated to one of the most beloved actors of all time, the Bristol-born CARY GRANT. Grant has created some of the most iconic scenes in the history of Hollywood cinema, particularly in his four collaborations with Alfred Hitchcock – *Suspicion* (1941), *Notorious* (1946), *To Catch a Thief* (1955) and *North by Northwest* (1959). As well as screenings of these classic films, there will be a special talk *Shadows and Light: Alfred Hitchcock and Cary Grant* in which author and lecturer Mark Glancy will examine the personal and professional relationship between the two men. Grant and Hitchcock must have seemed unlikely collaborators when they first met in 1939, but the debonair comedian and the macabre ‘master of suspense’ enriched each other’s work immeasurably.

Grant is a true one-off, a naturally gifted performer with the ability to mix light and dark – a prime example *Once Upon a Honeymoon* (Leo McCarey, 1942) is a dark drama with great comic moments from Grant and Ginger Rogers. Grant made a number of classic comedies with director Howard Hawks and those screening in September will include *Bringing Up Baby* (1938) alongside Katharine Hepburn, *Monkey Business* (1952) with Ginger Rogers and a young Marilyn Monroe, and *I Was a Male War Bride (aka You Can’t Sleep Here)* (1949) with Ann Sheridan. *Arsenic and Old Lace* (Frank Capra, 1944) meanwhile sees Grant starring as newly married Mortimer Brewster, who visits his elderly aunts, only to discover that these sweet women are harbouring a terrible secret – they murder lonely gentlemen in the belief that they’re ending their suffering. In *The Bishop’s Wife* (Henry Koster, 1947) David Niven plays Henry, a bishop who prays for divine intervention to find the money for his new cathedral. He receives it in the form of Dudley, played by Grant, who claims to be an angel that’s looking to help him out.

Also screening will be glossy rom-com *Indiscreet* (Stanley Donen, 1958), which reunited Grant with Ingrid Bergman, *Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House* (HC Potter, 1948) in which the Blandings family decide to ditch the big city and buy a large property in Connecticut, classic tear-jerker *An Affair to Remember* (Leo McCarey, 1957) alongside Deborah Kerr, and *Charade* (Stanley Donen, 1963), about a charming American (Grant) who meets a woman, played by Audrey Hepburn, who is on the run following the mysterious death of her husband.

**EVENTS, PREVIEWS AND REGULAR STRANDS**

- **SUN 1 SEP, 14:30** – SPECIAL EVENT: *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy: 40th Anniversary Screening* (BBC, 1979) / Onstage: Q&A with director John Irvin and actor Michael Jayston
- **MON 2 SEP, 14:00** – SENIORS’ FREE MATINEE: *A United Kingdom* (Amma Asante, 2016)
- **TUE 3 SEP, 18:15** – TV PREVIEW + Q&A: *World on Fire* (BBC/Mammoth Screen, 2019) / Onstage: Q&A with writer Peter Bowker plus cast TBA
- **WED 4 SEP, 20:20** – WOMAN WITH A MOVIE CAMERA: *Under the Skin* (Carine Adler, 1997) / Onstage: Q&A with director Carine Adler
- **EVERY SAT FROM 7 SEP–12 OCT** – BFI FAMILIES: SATURDAY FILM CLUBS – BFI Saturday film clubs for mini filmmakers aged 8-11 and 12-15 will cover everything from animation and live-action filmmaking to sci-fi and special effects.
- **SAT 7 SEP, 20:45** – BFI MEMBER EXCLUSIVE: *Member Picks: American Graffiti* (George Lucas, 1973)
- **MON 9 SEP, 20:15** – TV PREVIEW + Q&A: *Temple* (Sky/Her Pictures, 2019) / Onstage: Q&A with writer Mark O’Rowe, exec producer Liza Marshall, actor Mark Strong, and further cast TBA
- **TUE 10 SEP, 18:20** – SPECIAL EVENT: *BFI Musicals! Programme Launch*
- **TUE 12 SEP, 18:20** – SPECIAL EVENT: *NETWORK Nights* – join the BFI NETWORK team for a programme of short films they’re loving right now, topped off with some filmmaker discussion and industry networking
- **FRI 13 SEP, 18:00** – SPECIAL EVENT: *Midnight Cowboy: 50th Anniversary Screening* (John Schlesinger, 1969) / Onstage: Q&A with photographer and production assistant Michael Childers
- **FRI 13 – SUN 22 SEP** – UNDERWIRE FILM FESTIVAL – the UK’s only film festival celebrating female filmmaking
- **SAT 14 SEP, 12:00** – SPECIAL EVENT: *Doctor Who: Mindwarp* (BBC, 1986) / Onstage: Q&A with actors Colin Baker and Nicola Bryant
- **MON 16 SEP, 20:30** – SPECIAL EVENT: *Doing Porridge with Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais* – screening of an episode of *Porridge* followed by Q&A with writer and co-creator Dick Clement
- **WED 18 SEP, 18:10** – EXPERIMENTA: *Finding Her Voice Through The Lens: Feminist Avant-Garde Films by Susan Stein and Others* / Onstage: Q&A with Susan Stein
- **THU 19 SEP, 20:45** / **THU 26 SEP, 18:30** / **THU 26 SEP, 20:45** – SPECIAL EVENT: *Bug 60*
• SAT 21 SEP, 12:30 – FUTURE FILM: Future Film Labs: Sound and Music
• SAT 21 SEP, 14:00 – AFRICAN ODYSSEYS: Capitaine Thomas Sinkara (Christophe Cupelin, 2012) / Onstage: Q&A with Dr Ama Biney, Political Historian
• SUN 22 SEP, 12:15: FUNDAY PREVIEW: Shaun The Sheep Movie: Farmageddon (Will Becher, Richard Phelan, 2019) – preceded by a free Funday Workshop for ticketholders in the BFI Foyer from 10:45
• SUN 22 SEP, 13:15 – SILENT CINEMA: Phantom of the Moulin Rouge Le Fantôme du Moulin-Rouge (René Clair, 1925)
• MON 23 SEP, 18:30 – SPECIAL EVENT: Mark Kermode Live in 3D at the BFI / Onstage: Critic and broadcaster Mark Kermode plus special guests TBA
• MON 23 SEP, 20:40 – FILM PREVIEW: Good Posture (Dolly Wells, 2019)
• TUE 24 SEP, 20:30 – SPECIAL EVENT: The Man in the White Suit (Alexander Mackendrick, 1951) / Onstage: intro by actor Stephen Mangan
• THU 26 SEP, 18:10 – TERRORVISION: Necronomicon (Brian Yuzna, Christophe Gans, 1993)
• SUN 29 SEP – SPECIAL EVENT: James Bond Day – with anniversary screenings of On Her Majesty’s Secret Service (Peter Hunt, 1969), Mooraker (Lewis Gilbert, 1979) and The World is Not Enough (Michael Apted, 1999) / Onstage: James Bond superfan David Walliams, James Bond Composer David Arnold and more guests TBA

NEW AND RE-RELEASES
• CONTINUES FROM FRI 23 AUG: Pain and Glory Dolor y gloria (Pedro Almodóvar, 2019)
• CONTINUES FROM FRI 30 AUG: Bait (Mark Jenkin, 2019) – a BFI release
• FROM FRI 6 SEP: The Third Man (Carol Reed, 1949) – 70th anniversary release
• FROM FRI 13 SEP: Midnight Cowboy (John Schlesinger, 1969) – 50th anniversary BFI release
• FROM FRI 20 SEP: The Last Tree (Shola Amoo, 2019)

BIG SCREEN CLASSICS – TURMOIL!
Our daily screenings of classic movies in September will focus on emotional and psychological turmoil: on people (or animals!) undergoing crises of confusion, fear, grief, crippling uncertainty or turbulent, painful passion. Film, which can range from subtle realism to heady expressionism, was surely made for exploring such extremes. A film from BIG SCREEN CLASSICS – TURMOIL will screen every day for the special price of £8:
• The Green Ray Le Rayon vert (Eric Rohmer, 1986)
• The Bridges of Madison County (Clint Eastwood, 1995)
• Suddenly, Last Summer (Joseph L Mankiewicz, 1959)
• Lust for Life (Vincente Minnelli, 1956)
• La Vérité The Truth (Henri-Georges Clouzot, 1960)
• A Farewell to Arms (Frank Borzage, 1932)
• Summer with Monika Sommaren med Monika (Ingmar Bergman, 1953)
• The Chase (Arthur Penn, 1966)
• Miller’s Crossing (Joel Coen, 1990)
• The Hurt Locker (Kathryn Bigelow, 2008)
• The Trial Le procès (Orson Welles, 1962)
• The Night of the Hunter (Charles Laughton, 1955)

FULL EVENT LISTINGS FOR SEPTEMBER ARE AVAILABLE HERE:

– ENDS –

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About the BFI
The BFI is the UK’s lead organisation for film, television and the moving image. It is a cultural charity that:

- Curates and presents the greatest international public programme of World Cinema for audiences; in cinemas, at festivals and online
- Cares for the BFI National Archive – the most significant film and television archive in the world
- Actively seeks out and supports the next generation of filmmakers
- Works with Government and industry to make the UK the most creatively exciting and prosperous place to make film internationally

Founded in 1933, the BFI is a registered charity governed by Royal Charter. The BFI Board of Governors is chaired by Josh Berger CBE.

BFI Southbank
The BFI Southbank is open to all. BFI members are entitled to a discount on all tickets. BFI Southbank Box Office tel: 020 7928 3232. Unless otherwise stated tickets are £13.75, concs £11.25 including Gift Aid donation. Members pay £2.20 less on any ticket - www.bfi.org.uk/southbank.
Young people aged 25 and under can buy last minute tickets for just £3, 45 minutes before the start of screenings and events, subject to availability - http://www.bfi.org.uk/25-and-under.

Tickets for FREE screenings and events must be booked in advance by calling the Box Office to avoid disappointment

BFI Shop
The BFI Shop is stocked and staffed by BFI experts with over 1,200 book titles and 1,000 DVDs to choose from, including hundreds of acclaimed books and DVDs produced by the BFI.

BFI Reuben Library
BFI Southbank is home to the BFI Reuben Library which holds the world’s largest collection of books, journals and digitised material about film, television and the moving image. The library is free to access and hosts a year-round programme of talks and events.

‘Not just for movie nerds - this huge collection of film and TV books, periodicals, scripts, stills and posters is full of inspiration for anyone involved in the creative arts’ – Evening Standard Magazine
The BFI Reuben Library is open 10:30-19:00, Tuesday-Saturday.

The benugo bar & kitchen
Eat, drink and be merry in panoramic daylight. benugo’s décor is contemporary, brightly lit and playful with a lounge space, bar and dining area. The place to network, hang out, unpack a film, savour the best of Modern British or sip on a cocktail.
There’s more to discover about film and television through the BFI. Our world-renowned archival collections, cinemas, festivals, films, publications and learning resources are here to inspire you.

BFI Mediatheque
Free to access BFI Mediatheques offer users an opportunity to explore the digital collections drawn from the BFI National Archive and partner collections, at select UK-wide locations.

*** PICTURE DESK ***
A selection of images for journalistic use in promoting BFI Southbank can be found via the link below:
https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bvv5dezf4z4gAABM_AW1iEB18kPTK1CVNSUJa?dl=0
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